

THE GROUNDPLANE

SBARA Notes

SEPTEMBER MESSAGE – SBARA 2009 YEAR HALF OVER.

Field Day is behind us...as are the Primavera Bike Ride and Zucchini Festival volunteer events. Hopefully you have taken advantage of all the amateur radio activities this year and have enjoyed yourself. We started a slow speed CW practice half way through the year at the request of our membership. I encourage you to join in Wednesday and Sunday evenings. I believe Bernhard Hailer AE6YN has an article in this issue with all the details. I am encouraged by the members who have volunteered to become the SBARA Quartermaster. As soon as I clear a path in my garage I'll be arranging to transfer the equipment to the new Quartermaster. The first weekend in October is the California QSO Party (CQP). Last year a group of us operated the contest as a multi-operator entry and had a great time. I'm trying to set up a good station for us to use again this year. Stay tuned for further details. There are many opportunities remaining this year for you to enjoy your hobby. Give one a try.

73,
AI
WT6K

THANK YOU SBARA MEMBERS - ZUCCHINI FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS.

Thanks to all of you volunteers the turnout for shifts at this year's Zucchini Festival exceeded our expectations. Hopefully you had a good time as I did on my Sunday afternoon shift. I apologize for the unsolicited change requests that our webpage sign-up form sent out. It was designed to send you change request e-mail when you accessed the page and requested a change. Unfortunately, when the 'crawlers' like Google, accessed the page to catalog the contents it sent out change requests! Umesh is hot on correcting the problem. Because of you giving of your time to help out, SBARA will get a big donation check from the sponsors of the festival. Finally, at the September 11th membership meeting we will draw the winner of the GPS as SBARA's 'thank you' to you incredible group of volunteers.

AI Rendon – WT6K



Back to School

Special Interest...

- Loma Prieta Symposium
- September Contests
- SBARA CW Practice Group
- Shifts Worked
- CW and Q Codes

Special

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Zucchini Festival Volunteers

Sat	Name	#of Shifts	Sun	Name	#of Shifts
	Ang, Kwee Ling	1		Ang, Kwee Ling	1
	Barrett, Oliver	1		Berke, Mike	2
	Curtis, Dan	1		Berry, Annette	1
	Debras, Rita	1		Berry, Kris	1
	Douglas, Brad	1		Fung, Mike	2
	Fung, Mike	2		Ghokde, Ranjit	1
	Gafaell Jon	1		Ghokde, Umesh	1
	Hailer, Bernhard	2		Hailer, Bernhard	2
	Jessup, Michael	1		Moeller, Ron	Sick
	Kelly, Rudy	1		Ovenden, Heather	1
	Lippman, Ken	1		Randall, Carol	1
	Miller, Greg	1		Raush, Bill	1
	Miller, Elaine	1		Rendon, Al	1
	Palleschi, Bill	1		Rendon, Joan	1
	Parker, Ken	1		Thomas, Jim	1
	Peterson, Gordon	1		Wilson Doreen	1
	Thomas, Jim	1		Wilson, Steve ka6s	1
	Wilson, Steve Kg6hju	1		Wilson, Steve Kg6hju	1
	Wong, Brian	1		Wong, Brian	2
	Yee, Robin	1		Yee, Robin	1

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Fremont "T" Hunt

The Fox hunt starts at 6pm on September 5th. The start point is the usual, at the intersection of Zapotec Drive and Joshua Place in the residential area on the hill side SE of the junction of I680 and Mission Blvd South. The talk in frequency will be the 147.015+ Niles repeater.

Don Safer KC6IPO will be hiding the transmitter. The transmitter (fox) frequency will probably be 146.565. Listen to the talk in for confirmation.

This will be a beginner's (easy) hunt. We are expecting several new hunters. There will be experienced hunters at the start point to assist.

The area for the Fremont area hunts are limited to the south edge of Hayward (probably south of Industrial), Union City, Fremont, Newark, Milpitas north of Montaque and along 237 to about 101. However I guarantee that this fox will be within 5 miles of the start point.

No special equipment is required for these hunts. I have often won (lowest millage wins) many hunts with only my HT using "body fade" and signal strength.

If you chose to start someplace other than the start point you will not be in the running for the "Grand Prize" but you can still have fun.

We will get together for pizza after the hunt. If you can't join the hunt, you are still welcome to join us for pizza. Listen to the talk-in after the hunt for where and when.

These hunts are co-sponsored by SBARA and LARK.

For more details go to www.thunt.org or/and call me at (510) 471-5314.

Don Safer, KC6IPO

DeAnza Flea Market - Sat Sept. 12 (hosted by PAARA)

I'd like to sell these so I can go for the higher power (1KW) models. So, if you are in the market for these items and want to save a hefty sum by not paying the (9.25%) sales tax, drop me an email at : k6vug@sbcglobal.net !

(1) THP HL-450 80-10m HF Amp 400w SSB/CW 1 UNUSED

Solid state, fully automatic band-switching and protection. Very light and perfect for base + mobile operation !

(2) THP HP-450 13.8 VDC 60 Amp Power Supply THP-450 1 UNUSED

Matching switching power supply for THP HL-450 for base station operations off mains. Very compact and light weight too !

(3) LDG AT-1000 Pro 1 KW SSB Auto Tuner with Power SWR Meter HF+6M 1 UNUSED

Matching auto tuner, great for coupling the power amplifier to non-resonant and long wire antennas

(4) Mirage BD-35 2m/440 HT Amp 45/35w 1 UNUSED

Very compact and great for boosting the power of your dual-band HT's to a whopping 45+ watts, and used with a mobile antenna

(5) Comet Antenna 2m/440 Dual Band Mag-Mount Mobile Antenna 1 USED

Matching dual band mobile Mag-Mount antenna for use with the dual band amp BD-35.

All items are NEW and are in original mint condition with original manufacturers warranties.

Save on gas, items can be home delivered within SF Bay Area (and maybe a little beyond too !).



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Loma Prieta 20th Anniversary Symposium

Register Today!!

http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/2009/loma_prieta/registration.html

Speakers Announced for Oct 17th Loma Prieta Earthquake Commemorative Symposium

The confirmed list of speakers has been posted on the Loma Prieta Earthquake Commemorative Symposium Website at: http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/2009/loma_prieta/program.html

Date: Sat., Oct. 17, 2009

Time: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Place: Mark Hopkins Hotel, San Francisco

The symposium is being held at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco on Saturday October 17, 2009, the 20th anniversary of the 1989 earthquake, to investigate the progress that has been made since the earthquake and what work remains to make our built environment safe from future earthquakes. It will showcase a wide variety of topics including seismology, lifelines, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, long-term recovery, government response, community resilience, earthquake prediction science and the future of performance based engineering.

The speakers come from a diverse array of earthquake engineering disciplines and represent many organizations including: USGS, ABAG, BART, Stanford, CGS, CalEMA, NEHRP, Caltrans, California Seismic Safety Commission, the City of San Francisco, UC Berkeley, and several prominent consulting firms (URS, RMS, Degenkolb). With such a broad range of expertise, the symposium promises to broaden your understanding of how past experiences from the Loma Prieta earthquake have shaped the many fields of earthquake engineering and provide a sneak-peak into the future of earthquake risk reduction science.

Register before SEPTEMBER 15th for the \$50 advanced registration price which includes breakfast, lunch and the full day of educational presentations.

Register at: http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/2009/loma_prieta/registration.html

"No one can control earthquakes

but each of us can reduce the damage

they do by taking certain actions."

Follow the 7-Steps to Earthquake Safety at: <http://bayquakealliance.org/prepare/7steps/>

Susan Garcia

USGS, Earthquake Hazards

345 Middlefield Road, M/S 977

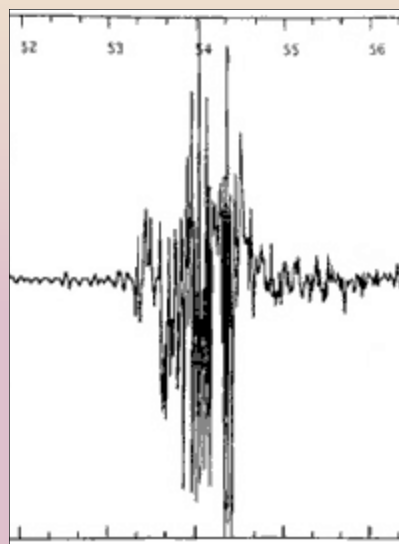
Menlo Park, California 94025

<http://earthquake.usgs.gov/regional/nca>

Email: garcia@usgs.gov

Office: (650) 329-4668

Fax: (650) 329-4732



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CERT News and Training Information

Our last CERT class for 2009 will start on Tuesday, 22-Sept. This class is full. If you know any one that would like to take the class please have them e-mail FirePubbEd@Fremont.gov to sign up for next year.

Saturday, October 3rd. Centerville CERT Container at Station 1 work party. *If weather permits we will finish the painting we started last year. We also need to finish organizing and inventorying the contents. Please join us for a day of hard work and fun. Thank you Wayne for taking charge of this activity.*

Saturday, October 10th. Annual Pancake Breakfast... 39609 Stevenson Place, Fire Station 9, 8:00 am. If you would like to help please let me know.

Saturday, October 17th. Ham Cram Course. Please see attached flyer for details. You must pre-register if you want to take the class.

We still need 2 more roll players for the **Fremont Police Department exercise.** The time is Sunday, October 25th, 9:30 pm to Monday morning at 6:00 am. If you are interested or know of anyone that can help, please have them contact the CERT desk at FirePubbEd@Fremont.gov or by calling 494-4244.

We need two to three individuals in 9-hours shifts to role play.

All volunteers must be 18-years of age or older.

Meals and water will be provided during the exercise to the volunteers by the police department.

Exact location will not be available until 1-week before the exercise. But it will be somewhere in central Fremont.

We have been told that we will not be receiving any additional details about the exercise.

Shift still available is :

9:30 pm to 6:30 am - Sunday night to Monday morning

Saturday, November 14th. First Aid/CPR/AED class. Class space is limited to 24. Class will be from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. Location is CERT Central, 3300 Capitol Ave., Bldg. A, south-east corner. Class is open only to CERT members. There is no cost. CPR certification will be good for two years. To sign up please respond to this e-mail. Sign-ups will be taken on a first come basis. Depending on interest a second class may be scheduled for the first part of 2010.

Don't forget to tell your friends, co-workers, and neighbors about our **PEP classes**. Our next PEP class will be on Wednesday, 23-September. If you are interested in having a PEP class at your church, homeowners association, etc. please contact Chuck at guaragliac@comcast.net.

Kay Diack

Centerville CERT

Assistant District Coordinator

SBARA CW Practice Group

Dear CW enthusiast (or prospective enthusiast), we are happy to announce that we again picked up holding CW practice sessions.

These sessions will take place:

**every Wednesday and Sunday
at 7:30 p.m.
on 21.175 MHz +/- 5 kHz.**

Note: this frequency may be used by Technicians, Generals and Extra Class amateurs - however for Technicians in CW only.

Please don't hesitate to check in. We will slow down for you, don't be scared away if somebody is really fast

there! Just send a "bk" and your callsign, we will adjust to your skills.

We will always listen on the WA6PWW repeater (147.015 (+) MHz).

Ask there if you have questions or problems with your setup.

Listen there shortly before the round starts, usually we will announce the session.

Looking forward to meeting you on 15 meters!

Al, WT6K and Bernhard, AE6YN

wt6k (at) arrl (dot) net

ae6yn (at) arrl (dot) net

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Amateur Radio Contest Information

2 September to 15 September

HF CONTESTS

All Asia Contest--Phone, from Sep 5, 0000Z to Sep 6, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28. Exchange: RS and age ("00" for YL). Logs due: Sep 29.

Russian Radio RTTY WW--Digital, from Sep 5, 0000Z to Sep 5, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28. Exchange: RST and oblast or WAZ zone. Logs due: Oct 14.

DARC 10-Meter Digital "Corona"--Digital, from Sep 5, 1100Z to Sep 5, 1700Z. Bands (MHz): 28. Exchange: RST and serial.

Colorado QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 5, 1200Z to Sep 6, 0400Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50+, Frequencies: CW --1.850, 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050; Phone--1.870, 3.850, 7.250, 14.250, 21.350, 28.450. Exchange: Call sign, name, and county or S/P/C. Logs due: Oct 6.

IARU Region I Field Day--Phone, from Sep 5, 1300Z to Sep 6, 1300Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28. Exchange: RS and serial. Logs due: 16 days. See IARU Society Web pages for details.

Tennessee QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 6, 1800Z to Sep 7, 0300Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50+. Exchange: RS (T) and county or S/P/C. Logs due: Oct 8.

Labor Day Sprint--CW, from Sep 7, 2300Z to Sep 8, 0300Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50. Exchange: RST, S/P/C, MI QRP nr or power. Logs due: Oct 8.

070 Club KA3X Memorial Sprint--Digital, from Sep 11, 8 PM to Sep 12, 2 AM. Bands (MHz): 3.5. Exchange: RST and S/P/C. Logs due: Oct 11.

WAE DX Contest--Phone, from Sep 12, 0000Z to Sep 13, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28. Exchange: RS and serial. Logs due: Sep 28.

Arkansas QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 12, 1400Z to Sep 13, 0600Z and Sep 13, 1500Z to Sep 13, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28, 144, Frequencies: CW--3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050; Phone--3.980, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360, 145-147. Exchange: RS(T), county or S/P or "DX". Logs due: Nov 15.

Ohio State Parks On the Air--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 12, 1600Z to Sep 12, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28, 50, 144. Exchange: "Ohio" or S/P/DX and Park ID. Logs due: 30 days.

Second-Class Operators Sprint--CW, from Sep 12, 1800Z to Sep 12, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28. Exchange: RST, S/P/C, SOC nr or power. Logs due: 30 days.

North American Sprint--CW, from Sep 13, 0000Z to Sep 13, 0400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-14. Exchange: Call signs, serial, name, and state. Logs due: 7 days.

VHF+ CONTESTS

ARRL September VHF QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 12, 1800Z to Sep 14, 0300Z. Bands (MHz): 50+. Exchange: Grid square. Logs due: Oct 8.

Colorado QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 5, 1200Z to Sep 6, 0400Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50+, Frequencies: CW --1.850, 3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050; Phone--1.870, 3.850, 7.250, 14.250, 21.350, 28.450. Exchange: Call sign, name, and county or S/P/C. Logs due: Oct 6.

Tennessee QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 6, 1800Z to Sep 7, 0300Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50+. Exchange: RS (T) and county or S/P/C. Logs due: Oct 8.

Labor Day Sprint--CW, from Sep 7, 2300Z to Sep 8, 0300Z. Bands (MHz): 1.8-28, 50. Exchange: RST, S/P/C, MI QRP nr or power. Logs due: Oct 8.

Arkansas QSO Party--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 12, 1400Z to Sep 13, 0600Z and Sep 13, 1500Z to Sep 13, 2400Z. Bands (MHz): 3.5-28, 144, Frequencies: CW--3.550, 7.050, 14.050, 21.050, 28.050; Phone--3.980, 7.260, 14.260, 21.360, 28.360, 145-147. Exchange: RS(T), county or S/P or "DX". Logs due: Nov 15.

QRP ARCI VHF Contest--Phone, CW, Digital, from Sep 12, 1900Z to Sep 13, 0400Z. Bands (MHz): 50+. Exchange: Grid square. Logs due: Oct 13.

LOG DUE DATES

2 September to 15 September

September 2 - RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB, email logs to: cwsprint.logs@rsgbhfcc.org, upload log at: <http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfcover.pl>, paper logs and diskettes to: (none),

September 14 - New Jersey QSO Party, email logs to: w2rj@arri.net, paper logs and diskettes to: Englewood ARA, P.O. Box 528, Englewood, NJ 07631-0528, USA.

September 14 - Maryland-DC QSO Party, email logs to: WA3EOP@arri.net, paper logs and diskettes to: Antietam Radio Association, P.O. Box 52, Hagerstown, MD 21741-0052, USA.

September 14 - SARL HF CW Contest, email logs to: hfcontests@netactive.co.za, paper logs and diskettes to: Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club, Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324, South Africa.

September 15 - ARCI Silent Key Memorial Sprint, email logs to: contest@qrparci.org, paper logs and diskettes to: ARCI Silent Key Memorial Sprint, c/o Jeff Hetherington, VA3JFF, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada.

September 15 - SCC RTTY Championship, email logs to: rtty@hamradio.si, paper logs and diskettes to: Slovenia Contest Club, Saveljska 50, 1113 Ljubljana, Slovenia.

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Useful CW Characters and Q Codes

Here is a list of special telegraphy characters, abbreviations and Q codes used in CW transmissions. This list has been tailored a bit to what we use during our practice sessions.

Special characters

=====

The following codes are sent in a single string, not with pauses between e.g. k and n for "kn", i.e. not "-.- -.-", but "-.-.-".

-.-.- "kn" - Called station, please come
- "sk" - End of transmission, over and out
 .-... "as" - Please wait
 -.-.- "ka" - begin message
 .-.-.- "ar" - end message

..... (8 dots; it should always be exactly 8!) -> error, will repeat

-.-.-.- comma
 .-.-.- period
 ..-.-.- question mark
 -.-.-.- equals character
 -.-.-.- dash
 SOS (there is no space between the characters!)

Abbreviations

=====

agn again

bk break ("break in", or, if sent at the end of a transmission: "please respond")

btu back to you

cu see you

cul see you later

bt but

cq seek you - that is, "anybody, please respond"

dr dear

es and

fb fine business

fer for

gud good

ga go ahead

ga good afternoon

ge good evening

gn good night

hi (expression of laughter)

hpe (I) hope

hr here

id I had

ill I will

im I am

jst just

k come back, come in

lis license

mni many

nite night

op station operator

pse please

rig station equipment

sn soon

u you

+++ Member offers iPhone/iTouch Applications +++

Carlton Yaffey, K8NU of Columbus, Ohio has developed two apps that can be downloaded using itunes on a PC or Mac. The apps are a chart of the Amateur Radio bands and a grid square map.

The Ham Bands application displays the layout of the segments of the radio spectrum assigned to FCC-licensed US radio

amateurs. The layouts indicate which portions of each band are for RTTY, CW and DATA and which are for PHONE and IMAGE. The layouts also indicate which portions are open to which license class.

The iGridSquare Amateur Radio application converts latitude and longitude into their 6-character grid square. Grid squares are often used to indicate a station's location, especially during contests or for obtaining awards.

THE GROUNDPLANE

Useful CW Characters and Q Codes

Here is a list of special telegraphy characters, abbreviations and Q codes used in CW transmissions. This list has been tailored a bit to what we use during our practice sessions.

Important Q codes

=====

Code	Question	Response
qrg	Which frequency are you on?	I am on ... (add kilo or megahertz)
qrl	Are you busy?	I am busy (also: I am at my work place)
qrm	Do you hear noise?	I am receiving you with noise.
qrn	Do you hear statics? crackling	I am receiving you with atmospheric noise (usually meaning the sound from far away thunderstorms)
qro	Should I increase power?	Please increase power
qrp	Should I decrease power?	Please decrease power / I am using less than 5 watts
qrq	Should I increase CW speed?	Please increase CW speed ("quicker")
qrrr		Emergency! (Like SOS, never use this except you really REALLY need it. And yes, that's three "r" characters!)
qrs	Should I decrease CW speed?	Please decrease CW speed ("slower")
qrt	Can we end our comm. now?	I will now end transmission.
qrv	Are you on air?	I am on air.
qrz	Are you ready?	I am ready for the next caller.
qsb	Am I fading?	I am receiving you with fading.
qsl	Did you copy?	Affirmative.
qso		(the running communication.)
qst		(broadcast message)
qsv	Can you switch frequency to...?	I will switch frequency to ...
qth	where are you located?	My station location
and...		
qlf?		Are you keying with your left foot?!

Bernhard, AE6YN
ae6yn (at) arrl (dot) net

THE GROUNDPLANE

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(800) 644-4476
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newcastle@hamradio.com

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Tigard-99W exit
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(800) 444-9476
John, W0IG, Mgr.
denver@hamradio.com

NEW LOCATION!

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Corner of 43rd Ave & Peoria
phoenix@hamradio.com

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(800) 854-6046
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp
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So. from Hwy. 101
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

ICOM



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Low Pricing!



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Low Pricing!



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Low Pricing!

YAESU



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- 3 IF roofing filters

Call Now For Low Pricing!

THE GROUNDPLANE

South Bay Amateur Radio Association
Founded 1974
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Web Site — www.sbara.org

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Open Position

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Treasurer

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Open Position

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Bill Artelt, WB9YVM

Webmaster

Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG

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Open Position

Program Facilitator

Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5
 WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2
 WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2
 K6AIR - 146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0
 K6AIR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
 ARES - Tuesday @ 7:30pm -
 147.015 + PL 103.5

SBARA Meeting Location

Our meeting location is at Hurricane Electric.

The address in Fremont is:

760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.
 Bring your HF transceiver, antenna) or HT !

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

Also consider joining us at Wok City Diner
 for Dinner at 6PM

Mingle with your fellow SBARA members
 and Guests!!!!

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Association** is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, a California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Stat-

utes. We sponsor training for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fre-

mont, California. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!

THE GROUNDPLANE



Announcements

**SBARA's monthly meeting is
September 11th. Beginning at 7:30pm**

**Our meeting location is at Hurri-
cane Electric. The address in
Fremont is:**

**760 Mission Court —
Come to the meeting and
bring your
HT, HF, Rig and Antenna!!**

The Ground Plane — KU6S
<http://www.sbara.org>
South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA
P.O. Box 8401
Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401